

160A-399.6 Required waiting period.-A property which has been designated as a historic property by ordinance as herein provided may, after notice has been made to the owner as provided in G.S. 160A-399.5(5), be demolished, materially altered, remodeled, or removed only after 90 days' written notice of the owner's proposed action has been given to the historic properties commission. During this period, the commission may negotiate with the owner and with any other parties in an effort to find a means of preserving the property. During this period, or at any time prior thereto following notice of designation to the owner as provided in G.S. 160A-399.5(5) and where such action is reasonably necessary or appropriate for the continued preservation of the property, the commission may enter into negotiations with the owner for the acquisition by gift, purchase, exchange or otherwise of the property or any interest therein authorized by G.S. 160A-399.3. The commission may reduce the waiting period required by this section in any case where the owner would suffer extreme hardship, not including loss of profit, unless a reduction in the required waiting period were allowed. The commission shall have the discretionary authority to waive all or any portion of the required waiting period, provided that the alteration, remodeling or removal is undertaken subject to conditions agreed to by the commission insuring the continued maintenance of the architectural or historical integrity and character of the property. (1971, c. 885, s. 6; 1973, c. 426, s. 62.)

160A-399.7 Certain changes not prohibited.-Nothing in this Part shall be construed to prevent the ordinary maintenance or repair of any exterior architectural feature in or on a historic property that does not involve a change in design, material or outer appearance thereof, nor to prevent the construction, reconstruction, alteration, restoration, demolition or removal of any such feature when a building inspector or similar official certifies to the commission that such action is required for the public safety because of an unsafe or dangerous condition. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent a property owner from making any use of his property not prohibited by other statutes, ordinances, or regulations. (1971, c. 885, s. 7; 1973, c. 426, s. 62.)

160A-399.8 Authority to acquire historic buildings.-Within the limits of its zoning jurisdiction, any city or county governing board (and, with the approval of the governing board, any historic properties commission) may acquire property designated by ordinance as historic property, and may pay therefor out of any funds which may be appropriated for that purpose. The general powers granted to municipalities by G.S. 160-200(1), (2), (4), and (5) and to counties by G.S. 153-2(2), (3), and (4), and by G.S. 153-9(13) and (14) shall be deemed to include specifically the authority to acquire, maintain, manage, repair, restore, exchange, or dispose of any building or structure designated as a historic property in any ordinance adopted pursuant to this Part. In the event the property is acquired under this section but is not used for some other governmental purposes, it shall be deemed to be a "museum" under the provisions of G.S. 160-200(40), notwithstanding the fact that the property may be or remain in private use, so long as the property is made reasonably accessible to and open for visitation by the general public. (1971, c. 885, s. 8; 1973, c. 426, s. 62.)

160A-399.9 Appropriations.-A city or county governing board is authorized to make appropriations to a historic properties commission established pursuant to this Part in any amount that it may determine necessary for the expenses of the operation of the commission, and may make available any additional amounts necessary for the acquisition, restoration, preservation, operation and management of historic buildings, structures, sites, areas or objects designated as historic properties, or of land on which historic buildings or structures are located or to which they may be removed. (1971, c. 885, s. 9; 1973, c. 426, s. 62.)